

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAM-01

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 AF-06

EB-07 EURE-00 NEA-10 IO-10 OPR-02 CCO-00 /095 W

----- 000742

Z O 081530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3707

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4519

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT SPLIT

REF: LISBON 4511

SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT GENERAL OTELO CARVALHO AGREES WITH ANTUNES DOCUMENT. COMMANDER OF COMMANDO REGIMENT ALSO AGREES, AND DOCUMENT IS BEING CIRCULATED IN MILITARY UNITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY FOR ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES. ANTUNES' ALLIES EXPECT THAT COMMUNISTS WILL MOUNT A COUNTER-OFFENSIVE PERHAPS AS EARLY AS THIS WEEKEND. COMMUNISTS THROUGHOUT ARMED FORCES J-5 ARE EXPECTED TO CREATE PHONY REACTIONARY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY SCARE. SOARES IS DELIGHTED WITH DOCUMENT AND HAS ISSUED HIS OWN TOUGH LETTER TO PRESIDENT WHICH WILL APPEAR
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IN TODAY'S "O TEMPO." NEVERTHELESS, GONCALVES, A MAN OF

IMPRESSIVE CHARISMATIC POWERS OVER THE AFM CANNOT BE COUNTED
OUT JUST YET. END SUMMARY

1. AN EMBASSY SOURCE CLOSE TO MAJ. MELO ANTUNES HAS TOLD
US THAT GEN. OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO WAS SHOWN A COPY OF THE
ANTUNES DOCUMENT (REFTEL) ON AUGUST 6 AND SAID THAT HE AGREED
WITH IT AND THAT IT SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A POLITICAL PLAN
OF ACTION. SUBSEQUENTLY, OTELO WAS FORCED TO BACK OFF BECAUSE
OF PREMATURE DISCLOSURE OF HIS SUPPORT IN THE AUGUST 7 EDITION
OF "JORNAL NOVO." HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, OTELO IS
STILL WITH ANTUNES.

2. ADDITIONAL MILITARY SUPPORT: THE ANTUNES DOCUMENT IS BEING
CIRCULATED AROUND MILITARY UNITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY IN ORDER
TO GET ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES. IN CLEVER MOVE, ANTUNES
SUPPORTERS HAVE GIVEN MILITARY FOUR DAYS TO SIGN. JAIME
NEVES, COMMANDER OF THE COMMANDO REGIMENT AND RECENT OBJECT OF
A COMMUNIST-INSPIRED OUSTER ATTEMPT, WANTED TO SIGN THE
DOCUMENT ON THE FIRST PAGE, BUT WAS PERSUADED NOT TO DO SO
BECAUSE OF HIS OWN DELICATE POLITICAL POSITION.

3. COMMUNIST COUNTEROFFENSIVE: ANTUNES' ALLIES EXPECT THAT
THE COMMUNISTS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED J-5 (PROPAGANDA
AND DYNAMIZATION) OF THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF WILL FIGHT
BACK BY CREATING SOME SORT OF PHONY REACTIONARY THREAT. ANTUNES'
FRIENDS FEAR THAT COMMUNISTS MAY ATTEMPT TO STIMULATE SPINOLA
OR ELP SUPPORTERS INTO A MOVE THAT WOULD EFFECTIVELY TORPEDO
THE EFFORTS OF THE ANTUNES MODERATES AND MAKE A COMMUNIST COME-
BACK POSSIBLE.

4. COMMENT: ADHERENCE OF OTELO TO THE ANTUNES POSITION LEAVES
PRIME MINISTER AND HIS COMMUNIST COHORTS IN A VERY DANGEROUS
POSITION. HOWEVER, ONE CANNOT UNDERESTIMATE THE CHARISMATIC
POWER OF GONCALVES AND HIS ABILITY TO TURN DEFEAT INTO VICTORY
WHEN DEALING WITH THE AFM FACE TO FACE. NEEDLESS TO SAY,
MARIO SOARES AND THE SOCIALISTS ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE ANTUNES
STATEMENT AND ONLY WISH THAT ANTUNES HAD MADE SOME CATEGORICAL
DEMANDS AT THE END OF THE STATEMENT. SOARES HAS ISSUED A VERY
TOUGH LETTER OF HIS OWN TO THE PRESIDENT WHICH WILL APPEAR IN
TODAY'S "O TEMPO" (SEPTTEL).

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5. STATE 187632 (FLASH) JUST RECEIVED AND ITEMS NOT COVERED THIS
TEL AND REFTEL WILL BE ANSWERED NEXT MESSAGE.
CARLUCCI

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, COMMUNISTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: PINT, MILI, PO, (CARVALHO, OTELO), (ANTUNES, MELO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006